RECEIVE CFTF PDF FREE Sign up at www.cftfpaper.com When the current issue is available you will be notified

Contending for Faith

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE THE TRUTH AND HATE ERROR

REFUTATION OF THE FALSE DOCTRINE OF ROBERT WATERS (PART 1)

Danny Douglas

God commands His faithful children not only to teach all of God's truth, but also to refute and condemn all false doctrine, exposing and marking the false teachers thereof:

Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple (Rom. 16:17-18).

Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers. For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake (Tit. 1:9-11).

And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them (Eph. 5:11).

Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds (2 John 9-11).

Robert Waters teaches fatal false doctrine on divorce and remarriage. An example of this is clearly seen in a December 1, 2017, Facebook post in the discussion group, "New Testament Promise."

In that post, Waters stated:

First, God hates "putting away," which is different from divorce. Yet many English versions errantly translate the word as divorce. But let's just say, for the sake of argument, that He hates divorce. This would not mean it is not His law or that it does not do what He designed it to do. God not only gave the divorce law so that the woman "may go and be another man's wife" (Deu. 24:1,2). He CONFIRMED that it was from Him, and not just Moses, it by using it Himself when He divorced Israel. Thus, the "argument" (if you can call it that) that "God Hates Divorce", that is supposed to support the doctrine that breaks up marriages and imposes celibacy, has God

saying He hates His own law! Friends and fellow Bible students, divorce was given for a reason and a purpose. The reason and purpose STILL EXISTS. Those who insist that "remarriage is adultery" not only misunderstand Jesus and falsely accuse Him of contracting Moses, but they also are rebellious toward God in denying or rejecting the teaching of Paul who says, regarding the "unmarried", "let them marry," and who asserts that they (the "loosed" to include the divorced) do not sin if they marry (1 Cor. 7:1, 2, 8, 9; 27, 28). And it remains true that those who are guilty of "forbidding to marry" are doing what Paul classified as "doctrines of devils" (1 Tim. 4:1-3).

From this brief article, several false assumptions by Robert Waters may be seen.

- 1. Waters erroneously assumes that "putting away" is different from divorce.
- 2. Waters implies, and thus, assumes, in his opening statements above, that God does not "hate divorce."
- 3. Waters assumes that Deuteronomy 24:1,2 is part of God's marriage law for today, that is, part of the law of Christ—the New Testament.
- 4. Waters implies that those who do not permit the liberty in remarriage which he asserts, break up marriages and impose celibacy.
- 5. He also asserts that one may not "remarry" in adultery, or live in an adulterous marriage.
- 6. Waters asserts that 1 Corinthians 7 includes permission to remarry on the part of divorced people, which goes beyond that which the Lord allowed in Matthew 19:9.

ANSWER TO THE FALSE ASSUMPTIONS OF ROBERT WATERS

Contrary to the teaching of Robert Waters, the word of God teaches that "putting away" and divorce are indeed one and the same. They are used interchangeably. Greek scholars and translators of the Bible agree that divorce is putting away.

IN THIS ISSUE.....

Editorial–David P. Brown
"JUST PREACH CHRIST NOT DOCTRINE"—JERRY C. BREWER5
Church Directory8

Contending For Faith

David P. Brown, Editor and Publisher dpbcftf@gmail.com

COMMUNICATIONS received by CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH and/or its Editor are viewed as intended FOR PUBLICATION unless otherwise stated. Whereas we respect confidential information, so described, everything else sent to us we are free to publish without further permission being necessary. Anything sent to us NOT for publication, please indicate this clearly when you write. Please address such letters directly to the Editor David P. Brown, P.O. Box 2357, Spring, Texas 77383 or dpbcftf@gmail.com. Telephone: (281) 350-5516.

FREE-FREE-FREE-FREE-FREE

To receive **CFTF** free, go to **www.cftfpaper.com** and sign up. Once done, you will be notified when the current issue is available. It will be in the form of a PDF document that can be printed, and forwarded to friends.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR THE PAPER EDITION

Single Print Subs: One Year, \$25.00; Two Years, \$45.00. NO REFUNDS FOR CANCELLATIONS OF PRINT SUBSCRIPTIONS.

ADVERTISING POLICY & RATES

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH exists to defend the gospel (Philippians 1:7,17) and refute error (Jude 3). Therefore, we advertise only what is authorized by the Bible (Colossians 3:17). We will not knowingly advertise anything to the contrary and reserve the right to refuse any advertisement.

All setups and layouts of advertisements will be done by CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH. A one-time setup and layout fee for each advertisement will be charged if such setup or layout is needful. Setup and layout fees are in addition to the cost of the space purchased for advertisement. No major changes will be made without customer approval.

All advertisements must be in our hands no later than one month preceding the publishing of the issue of the journal in which you desire your advertisement to appear. To avoid being charged for the following month, ads must be canceled by the first of the month. We appreciate your understanding of and cooperation with our advertising policy.

MAIL ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS, ADVERTISEMENTS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, P. O. Box 2357, Spring, Texas 77383-2357. COST OF SPACE FOR ADS: Back page, \$300.00; full page, \$300.00; half page, \$175.00; quarter page, \$90.00; less than quarter page, \$18.00 per column-inch. CLASSIFIED ADS: \$2.00 per line per month. CHURCH DIRECTORY ADS: \$30.00 per line per year. SETUP AND LAYOUT FEES: Full page, \$50.00; half page, \$35.00; anything under a half page, \$20.00.

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH is published bimonthly. P. O. Box 2357, Spring, Texas 77383-2357 Telephone: (281) 350-5516.

Ira Y. Rice, Jr., Founder August 3, 1917-October 10, 2001

Editorial...

R. I. P.

As most know, the initials at the head of this column stand for "Rest in Peace." Over the years, we have noticed that with a host of people, no matter what kind of ungodly life one has lived, when that person dies, they will express their thoughts for the deceased with, "R. I. P." The fact of the matter is this, by far most people who are accountable to God for their actions will, immediately following their death, lift up their eyes in the flames of Tartarus in the Hadean world, wishing for just a water moist finger to touch their tongues with the empty wish that they could be relieved from only a fraction of their agony (Luke 16:19-31). This punishment is waiting on all those who enter eternity with their sins unforgiven. Jesus plainly warned:

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it (Mat. 7:13, 14).

The word *strait* (not *straight* as between point "a" and point "b," means a very constricted passage). The gate is strait and the way to heaven is a narrow way, hemmed in all sides by the commandments of God. Those who are unwilling to obey God's will are not permitted to enter the gate and travel that way, the only way to travel that ends in heaven (Heb. 5:9).

On the other hand, there is but one other gate to enter and path to travel. That gate is wide and the way is broad. It permits men to do as they please and live as they desire, but it leads to but one place—eternal destruction in the fires reserved for all who ignore God and choose the easy way to live while on earth. Every false religion—the denominations, the various cults, Catholicism of every description, paganism, Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims, Jews, atheists, agnostics and infidels of every stripe—will lose their souls in torment. Also, the many apostate members of the Lord's church, with those brethren who have been overtaken in a trespass, but refused to repent and be restored to their first love will be found there (John 14:6: John 8:24; Mat. 7:22, 23; Mark 9:4-48; John 12:48; 2 The. 1:6-9; 1 Cor. 6:9,10; Gal. 5:19-21; Heb. 10:26-31; 2 Pet. 2:20-22; Rev. 21:8).

The gospel is God's power to save men from their sins (Rom. 1:16; Mark 16:15, 16; 1 Cor. 15:1-4). Thus, those who do not obey the gospel have no hope and will suffer eternal destruction at the end of the world (2 The. 1:6-9).

The fact of the matter is this, only a very few accountable people will "R. I. P" when they die. As terrible and sad as it is, most leave this world unprepared to meet their God.

As we bid good bye to 2017, we know that if we are faithful till death in the Lord's church, our Lord will keep His promise. Thus, on that great and final Judgment Day we will hear Him say to us, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord" (Mat. 25:21. Also see 1 Cor. 15:58). To that end we labor, covet your prayers, and wish you all a happy new year in the Lord.

—David P. Brown, Editor

Furthermore, notice the word for divorce, as employed by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 2:13), as seen in the following passages (below) means, "put away."

For example, Vine declares that "DIVORCE, DIVORCE-MENT," is from the Greek word, *apoluo* NT:630, meaning: "to let loose from, let go free" (*apo*, "from," *luo*, "to loose"), is translated "is divorced" in the KJV of Mat. 5:32 (RV, "is put away"); it is further used of "divorce" in Matthew 1:19; 19:3,7-9; Mark 10:2,4-11; Luke 16:18. Moreover, Vine also said the Lord also used it in the case of a wife putting away her husband, Mark 10:12...(Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words).

Waters denies that God hates divorce or "putting away." However, all one needs to do is consult the Holy Scriptures to see that the Waters view and the Sacred view are contrary one to the other. The prophet of God, Malachi, inspired of the Spirit, as all the prophets of God were (cf. 2 Pet. 1:21), plainly declares, (in warning the men of Israel not to deal treacherously with their wives):

Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously (Mal. 2:15-16).

Furthermore, Jesus warns against divorce, that was common among the Jewish men of His day, stating that putting away or divorcing one's wife apart from the cause of fornication would lead a wife into an adulterous marriage relationship (cf. Mat. 5:31-32). Moreover, He taught that God's original plan was for the permanency of marriage, that marriage permanency being contrary to the divorce practices of the Jews by the time of the first century (cf. Mat. 19:4-6; Gen. 2:21-24).

Robert Waters teaches that Deuteronomy 24:1-2 is part of God's marriage law for today, that is, it is part of the New Testament. This is a false doctrine. Jesus plainly taught that Moses allowed the Israelites to put away their wives, but from the beginning it was not so. Jesus goes back before the Law of Moses to the beginning in stating God's plan for marriage (Mat. 19:4-6). Moreover, Jesus contrasts His teaching with that of Moses' law in Matthew 19:8-9, by plainly stating:

....Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery (Mat. 19:8-9).

Now, take notice of what Moses permitted in Deuteronomy 24:1-2:

When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house. And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's wife.

Jesus clearly states that the only lawful cause whereby one might put away his wife and marry another is "fornication"

(Greek, *porneia*). Greek scholars agree, and several New Testament passages uphold the fact that "fornication" is illicit sexual intercourse, and not: "some uncleanness" and is more than simply "no favour" in the eyes of the husband (Deu. 24:1).

Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon says of porneia (i.e., fornication):

πορνεια, πορνειας, ή (πορνευω)...used a. properly, of illicit sexual intercourse in general (Demosthenes, 403, 27; 433, 25): Acts 15:20,29; 21:25; (that this meaning must be adopted in these passages will surprise no one who has learned from 1 Corinthians 6:12ff how leniently converts from among the heathen regarded this vice and how lightly they indulged in it; accordingly, all other interpretations of the term, such as of marriages within the prohibited degrees and the like, are to be rejected); Romans 1:29 Rec.; 1 Corinthians 5:1; 6:13,18; 7:2; 2 Corinthians 12:21; Ephesians 5:3; Colossians 3:5; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; Revelation 9:21; it is distinguished from μοιχεια in Matthew 15:19; Mark 7:21; and Galatians 5:19 Rec.; used of adultery (cf. Hosea 2:2 (4), etc.), Matthew 5:32; 19:9.

Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words is in agreement that porneia, "fornication," refers to "illicit sexual intercourse," and Vine cites the following Scriptures where it is so used: John 8:41; Acts 15:20, 29; 21:25; 1 Cor. 5:1; 6:13, 18; 2 Cor. 12:21; Gal. 5:19; Eph. 5:3; Col. 3:5; 1 The. 4:3; Rev. 2:21; 9:21; 1 Cor. 7:2. Vine further states, "in Mat. 5:32 and 19:9 it stands for, or includes adultery; it is distinguished from it in 15:19 and Mark 7:21."

Moreover, rather than allowing a woman who found "no favor" in her husband's eyes, or in whom "some uncleanness" was found, to go and remarry, Jesus warns:

It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: But** I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery (Mat. 5:31-32).

**The interjection, "but" (v. 32), signals that the Lord is making a strong distinction here between His law and that which was allowed under Mosaic legislation.

It should be obvious to every thoughtful and honest student of the New Testament that Matthew 5:31-32 shows very plainly that the Lord's teaching on this matter, in which He refers to what Moses allowed (cf. Deu. 24:1), is to be clearly distinguished from the Law of Moses.

Rather than being free to remarry in such a situation, as some falsely assert, Jesus warns that a man who unlawfully puts away his wife "causeth her to commit adultery." How is that the case with her? In that, she would be encouraged to end up remarrying unscripturally and living in an adulterous "marriage."

Jesus states very plainly in Matthew 19:9 that one who marries a woman who has been put away unlawfully, would himself be guilty of adultery. Hence, the implication is, that the man and the woman both would be in an adulterous "marriage." Hear Jesus: "And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery" (Mat. 19:9).

Even the *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia* is correct in stating that the Lord did away with the Mosaic treatment of divorce.

We are not called upon to treat of divorce in the Mosaic legislation (Deu. 24:1-4). That was passed upon by Jesus in the above discussion and by Him ruled out of existence in His system of religion. After Jesus had spoken as above, the Mosaic permission of divorce became a dead letter. There could not be practice under it among His disciples. So such Old Testament divorce is now a mere matter of antiquarian curiosity.

Indeed, Waters and others who teach that Deuteronomy 24 continues to be in force today need to recognize that Christ took the Old Law out of the way and nailed to His cross, and the New Testament is the only law binding on men today (cf. Eph. 2:15; Col. 2:14; Rom. 7:1-4; Heb. 7:22; 8:6-13). They need to go back to the mount of transfiguration and heed the words of the Father, Who in the presence of Moses and Elijah, commanded concerning His Son: "Hear ye Him" (Mat. 17:5). This was the proclamation that men are to submit to the authority of Jesus Christ, Who has all authority in heaven and on earth (Mat. 28:18), and not to the Law of Moses!

Hence, we agree with the late brother Guy N. Woods, who stated concerning Deuteronomy 24:1-4,

Its edicts, as a part of special legislation by Moses, enacted in a period of great moral laxity, designed for the preservation of the marriage state, and for the protection of wives, was expressly annulled by the Lord in Matthew 19:1-9 (*Questions and Answers, Vol. II*, p. 255).

Waters implies that those who do not permit the liberty in remarriage that he asserts, break up marriages and impose celibacy. Further, he also teaches that one may not remarry in adultery or live in an adulterous marriage. This very idea shows reveals again another false assumption on the part of Robert Waters, and that is, a marriage which God does not authorize is a marriage which no one has a right to speak out against, or, as he puts it, to "break up."

One wonders if Waters would have condemned John the Baptist for seeking to break up the marriage of Herod and Herodias by condemning their unlawful marriage relationship. Remember that John said, "It is not lawful for thee to have her" (Mat. 14:4; cf. Mat. 14:3-10).

Furthermore, to get out of such an adulterous situation would have demanded that Herod live celibate. Yet, according to Waters, one dare not teach anything that would cause a "marriage" to break up, or that would cause one to live in celibacy the rest of his life. It implies that having a sexual relationship is the chief thing, even more important than pleasing God and going to heaven!

However, according to Jesus, there is something far worse than celibacy, and that is to be cast into hell fire! And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched (Mark 9:47-48).

This is a direct parallel to the situation that people are in today when they have remarried a person that God did not authorize them to marry. Herod was living with his brother Philip's wife (Mat. 14:3). He was living in sin. He was living in adultery. He was living with a woman he had no authority from God to have. How then can it be said that a person cannot live in adultery in an unlawful marriage situation?

One cannot possibly bring forth the fruits of repentance (Acts 26:20; Mat. 3:8; Luke 3:8), and continue in adultery, or in any oth-

er kind of sinful relationship, or, for that matter, in any other sin! Many need to hear the words of Paul, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound. God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer there in?" (Rom. 6:1-2). Moreover, in his warning to the Colossian Christians about certain sins (Col. 3:5-7), Paul said that at one time they walked in them, and "lived in them" (v. 7). One of those sins Paul mentioned is "fornication" (v. 5). Now, two people may live in fornication who are living together outside of marriage. However, people who are living together in adultery are also living in fornication, as adultery is one category of fornication (cf. Mat. 19:9). According to the inspired penman of Hebrews, scriptural marriage is honorable (Heb. 13:4); but: "whoremongers and adulterers God will judge." So, is it better to teach the truth, lead people out of adultery, and rescue their souls from the path to hell, or to comfort them in their adultery, giving them a false comfort as they go on their merry way to eternal destruction?

Moreover, and again, Jesus warned that to divorce one's wife saving for the cause of fornication would cause her to commit adultery (cf. Mat. 5:31-32). Why? Because she would go out and contract an unlawful marriage relationship. Also, the Lord plainly warned against committing adultery by having an unlawful (unscriptural) marriage in Matthew 19:9. He said: "And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery" (Mat. 19:9). Jesus made it clear that in marrying her that is put away, one commits adultery. Now, how can this be if it is impossible for one to live in an adulterous marriage, as Robert Waters asserts?

Waters asserts that those whose teaching forbids remarriage to certain divorced people, are described by Paul in the context of 1 Timothy 4:1-3, as: "forbidding to marry." Therein Paul warned:

But the Spirit saith expressly, that in later times some shall fall away from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons, through the hypocrisy of men that speak lies, branded in their own conscience as with a hot iron; forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by them that believe and know the truth (1 Tim. 4:1-3, ASV—1901).

Paul is warning against such doctrines as those practiced by the Roman Catholics, who forbid marriage to certain ones. Also, he is referring to those who forbid the eating of certain meats, that were and are found in various religious bodies. No reference is made at all here regarding those who warn against unscriptural marriages.

Nevertheless, according to Waters, those who forbid remarriage, based on the teaching of our Lord, have departed from the faith, and are giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons. Obviously, he is taking Paul's meaning here grossly out of context. Although he may not intend to do so, he is actually categorizing the teaching of Jesus as being of the devil, because the Lord is the One, Who forbade remarriage to certain divorced people.

1. Jesus gave no authority whatsoever for the guilty party (the fornicator) to ever remarry. We must respect the silence of the Scriptures here.

- 2. Jesus forbids one who has been put away, without the cause of fornication (i.e., unlawfully) from remarrying.
- 3. Moreover, Jesus forbids anyone to marry her or him who is put away accordingly.
- 4. The only person who Jesus authorizes to remarry following a Matthew 19:9 divorce is the innocent spouse who has put away for the cause of fornication the marital mate who is guilty of that fornication.

Again hear Jesus: "And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery"

(Mat. 19:9).

Obviously, where fornication has not been committed, but a civil (not a Scriptural) divorce has occurred, then the husband and wife remain married in the eyes of God, and neither of them has the right to remarry, no more than Herod had a right to his brother Philip's wife!

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Col 3:17).

—704 Azalea Dr. Mt. Pleasant, TN 38474

*୰*୶୰୶୰୶୰୶୰୶୰୶୰୶୰୶୰୶୰୶୰

"JUST PREACH CHRIST, NOT DOCTRINE"

Jerry C. Brewer

Have you heard the old cry that preachers ought to "Just preach Christ, and not doctrine?" What people usually mean by that is, "Just tell of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, but do not say anything about baptism for the remission of sins, the church for which Jesus died, or the religious name men must wear." What does it mean to "preach Christ?" Like all religious questions, that one must be answered from God's word. When Philip left Jerusalem, the record says he "went down to the city of Samaria and reached Christ unto them" (Acts 8:5). This verse states the thesis of Philip's preaching, but does not give its details. Those are to be found in succeeding verses, so we must read further to see exactly what Philip preached when he "preached Christ."

Three things are mentioned in Acts 8:12 that are included in the term "preaching Christ." It says, "But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning, 1) the kingdom of God and, 2) the name of Jesus Christ, they were, 3) baptized, both men and women." Philip preached the importance of the church in salvation, for the church is the kingdom which was included in "preaching Christ." Jesus defined the church as the kingdom when he used those two terms interchangeably in Matthew 16:18-19. It is the church which Christ saves (Eph. 5:23), so the preaching of Christ involves preaching the importance of the church for which He died.

When Philip preached Christ, he preached the importance of Christ's name. The religious world often appeals to Shakespeare when it comes to wearing religious names. They quote the bard's statement that, "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet." That may be great literature, but Shakespeare is not the authority in religion. There is only one name in which men can be saved and that is Christ's name (Acts 4:12). The human names which men wear in religion today have no basis in Scripture. Christ's followers are authorized to wear only the God-given name "Christian" (Acts 11:26; 26:28; and 1 Peter 4:16).

In preaching Christ, Philip also preached the necessity of baptism. When he preached to the Samaritans, the Scripture says, "they were baptized, both men and women." How did they know that they needed to be baptized? Because Philip "preached Christ unto them." They would not—and could not—have known that if Philip had not preached it to them. Philip preached the same gospel Peter preached on Pentecost, telling his hearers to "repent and be baptized for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38).

Anyone can see from Acts chapter 8 that it is impossible to preach Christ and not preach what Christ taught about the importance of the church, the name we are to wear in religion, and the necessity of baptism in order to have our sins forgiven. Those who ignore these things and "just preach Christ" are not preaching Christ at all. They are false teachers.

—308 South Oklahoma Ave. Elk City, OK 73644

24 Hours A Day

Seven Days A Week At:

www.contending4thefaith.org



2018 SPRING CHURCH OF CHRIST CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH LECTURESHIP

THE "I AM" STATEMENTS OF JESUS

February 23-25, 2018

Friday, Feb. 23

6:30 pm—Congregational Singing—John West

7:00 pm—I Am the Way—Roelf Ruffner

8:00 pm—I Am the Resurrection—Terry Hightower

Saturday, Feb. 24

9:00 am—I Am the Door—Geoff Litke

 $10{:}00~am{--}I~Am~the~Good~Shepherd{--} \textbf{Jess~Whitlock}$

11:00 am—I Am the Light of the World—Gene Hill

LUNCH PROVIDED BY SPRING CONGREGATION

1:30 pm—I Am the Alpha and Omega—Jerry Brewer

2:30 pm—I Came Not to Send Peace, But a Sword—Wayne Blake

3:30 pm—*John 12:48*—**John West**

Sunday, Feb. 25

9:30 am—I Am the Bread of Life—Michael Hatcher

10:30 am—I Am the Vine—Danny Douglas

LUNCH PROVIDED BY SPRING CONGREGATION

1:30 pm—I Am the Life—Harold Davidson

2:30 pm—I Am the Truth—Bruce Stulting

The lectures are archived and available at: www.churchesofchrist.com

No 2018 Lectureship Book or Audio/Video of the Lectures are For Sale

Some earlier bound lectureship books and all the books on CD are available in a searchable PDF format.

The following years, 1994-2014, 2016, are available on CD.

The cost of all the books on CD is \$50.00 plus P&H.

Earlier lectureship books in PDF format may be purchased individually for \$5.00 plus P&H.

ORDERING

To order past lectureship books (those remaining in print) and the CD of the lectureship books, contact:

Contending for the Faith, P. O. Box 2357, Spring, TX 77383-2357, or (281) 350-5516, or dpbcftf@gmail.com

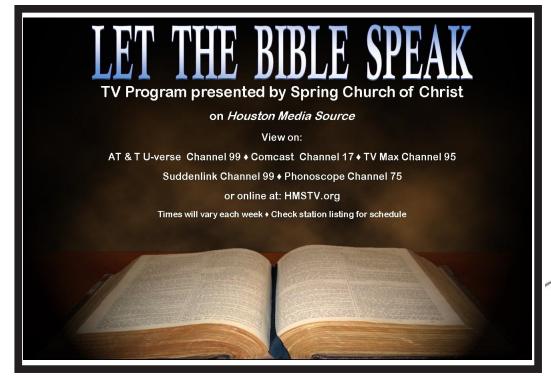
ELDERS: David P. Brown, Kenneth D. Cohn, Buddy Roth, and John West

Spring Church Secretary: Sonya West—Email: sonyacwest@gmail.com—Phone: (281) 353-2707

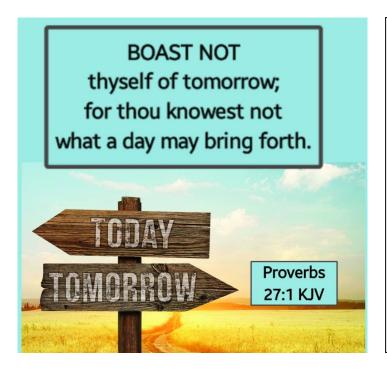
SPRING CHURCH OF CHRIST

—PO BOX 39 (Mailing address)—

1327 SPRING CYPRESS ROAD, SPRING, TX 77383







FREE CD AVAILABLE

Contending for the Faith is making available a CD-ROM free of charge. Why is this CD important? ANSWER: It contains an abundance of evidentiary information pertaining to Dave Miller's doctrine and practice concerning the re-evaluation/reaffirmation of elders, MDR, and other relevant and important materials and documents directly or indirectly relating to the Brown Trail Church of Christ, Apologetics Press, Gospel Broadcasting Network, MSOP, and more.

To receive your free CD or make a financial contribution toward this important CD's distribution you can reach us at **Contending for the Faith**, **P. O. Box 2357**, **Spring**, **TX 77383-2357**, or request the CD by emailing us at dpbcftf@gmail.com.

Visit The Scripturecache Website!

Exposition, Exegesis, and Commentary on a variety of Bible Topics and Passages

Over the past half-century-plus, I have had the opportunity to write hundreds of articles and manuscripts. My late beloved wife, Lavonne, and our son, Andy, have written a considerable body of material as well. These documents treating various Bible and Bible-related subjects total several thousand pages.



Dub McClish



Lavonne McClish



Andy McClish

At the urging of others we are making these materials more widely available than possible by printed media. Through our Website, these are accessible at no charge to Bible students everywhere. If the things we have written help even one person to a better understanding of the Sacred Text and to a closer relationship with its Divine Author, we will feel amply rewarded. Please visit *thescripturecache.com* soon. —**Dub McClish**

Contending For The Faith P. O. Box 2357 Spring, Texas 77383-2357

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

-Colorado-

Denver–Piedmont Church of Christ, 1602 S. Parker Rd. Ste. 109, Denver, CO 80231, Sunday: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m. www.piedmontcoc. net, Lester Kamp, evangelist. (720) 989-8155.

-England-

Cambridgeshire—Cambridge City Church of Christ, meeting at The Manor Community College, Arbury Rd., Cambridge, CB4 2JF. Sun., Bible Study--10:30 a.m., Worship-- 11:30 a.m.; Tue. Bible Study--7:30 p.m. www.CambridgeCityCoC.org.uk. Contact: Inside the U.K.: Joan Moulton - 01223-210101; Postal/mailing Address - PO BOX 1, Ramsey Huntingdon, PE26 2YZ United Kingdom

-Florida-

Ocoee—Ocoee Church of Christ, 2 East Magnolia Street, Ocoee, FL 34761. Sun. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m. Wed. 7:00 p.m. David Hartbarger, Evangelist, (407) 656-2516.

Pensacola—Bellview Church of Christ, 4850 Saufley Field Road, Pensacola, FL 32526, Sun. 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m. Michael Hatcher, evangelist, (850) 455-7595. http://www.bellviewcoc.com/

-Montana-

Helena—Mountain View Church of Christ, 1400 Joslyn Street, Helena, Mt. 59601, Sun.: 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m., Matt Bidmead (406) 461-9199.

-Oklahoma-

Elk City—Northeast Church of Christ, 616 N. Locust Ave., Mailing address P.O. Box 267, Elk City, OK 73648-0267, Sunday: 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m., Wed.: 7:00 p.m. Jerry and Nathan Brewer, evangelists. The church building is one block east of North Van Buren, on East Avenue C in Elk City, Oklahoma . FaceBook: www.facebook.com/nechurchof-christecok.

Porum—Church of Christ, 8 miles South of I-40 at Hwy 2, Warner exit. Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m. Allen Lawson, evangelist, email: allenlawson@earth-comm.com.

-South Carolina-

Belvedere (Greater Augusta, Georgia Area)—Church of Christ, 535 Clearwater Road, Belvedere, SC 29841,www.belvederechurchofchrist. org; e-mail belvecoc@gmail.com, (803) 442-6388, Sun.: 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:00p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m.,

Texas-

Denton area—Northpoint Church of Christ, 4224 N. I-35 (Greenway Plaza, just north of Cracker Barrel). Mailing address: 4224 N. I-35, Denton, TX 76207. E-mail: northpointcoc@hotmail.com. Website: www.northpointcoc.com. Sunday: 9:30, 10:30, 1:00; Wednesday 7:00. Contact: Dub McClish: (940) 218-2892; dubmcclish@gmail.com.

Houston area–Spring Church of Christ, 1327 Spring Cypress, P.O. Box 39, Spring, TX 77383, (281) 353-2707. Sun. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., Wed. 7:30 p.m., David P. Brown, evangelist. Home of the Spring *Contending for the Faith* Lectures. www.churchesofchrist.com.

Huntsville–1380 Fish Hatchery Rd. Huntsville, TX 77320. Sun. 9 a. m., 10 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m. (936) 438-8202.

Richwood–1600 Brazosport, Richwood, TX. Sun. 9:30; 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m. (979) 265-4256.

San Antonio/Sequin Area-Nockenut Church of Christ, 2559 FM 1681, Stockdale, TX 78160, Sun. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., Wed. 7:30 p.m., nktchurchofchrist.org